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VOLUME 60, ISSUE 03

Bellows Falls 2021 Alumni Queen nominees

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – The following are this year's nominees for the 2021 Bellows Falls Alumni Queen: Sydney Bazin, Emma Graham, Olive Pinette, Mary-Elizabeth Rawling, and Isabel Stack.

Sydney Bazin

My name is Sydney Bazin. I am the daughter of Peter and Dawn Bazin of Westminster, Vt.

During my time at Bellows Falls Union High School, I have been involved in numerous clubs and sports teams. I have been a member of our varsity soccer team all four years, and our varsity basketball team for two years. This year I was also named captain for both teams. As well as sports, I have participated in Math Team and Student Council for three years, Prom Committee, School Newspaper, Yearbook Committee, and was a trumpet player in our band my freshman year. I have also been working at Dari Joy for three years now, serving ice cream and waiting on tables. I have done many community service projects as well, like helping at Kids Dance Away Cancer and the Bellows Falls Middle School's annual "Santa Express Train."

Next fall I will be attending Bentley University in Waltham, Mass. As of now I am business undecided, but I am looking forward to exploring different classes in the business realm when I arrive at school. I am very excited about this next chapter in my life, and all the opportunities that come with being so close to



Sydney Bazin. PHOTO PROVIDED



Emma Graham. PHOTO PROVIDED



Olive Pinette. PHOTO PROVIDED



Mary-Elizabeth Rawling. PHOTO PROVIDED



Isabel Stack. PHOTO PROVIDED

the city.

Emma Graham

My name is Emma Graham. I am the daughter of Terry and Cynthia Graham of Rockingham, Vt.

During my time at Bellows Falls Union High School, I have thoroughly enjoyed spending a great deal of time participating in extracurricular activities. Among these activities include varsity soccer, softball, Student Council, Student Government, band, and Math Team. I am frequently volunteering at the local American Legion, serving dinner to veterans, playing Taps on Memorial Day, and recently I biked 500 miles for my senior project and raised a total of \$1,500 for Stop Soldier Suicide. I also volunteer at local churches playing my trumpet on holidays. Perhaps my most honorable award was being named the 2020 Daughters of the American

Revolution Good Citizen. I was also named captain of the soccer team my senior year, and I am currently senior class president and president of the Student Council. Throughout my time on the Student Council, I have helped organize food drives, toy drives, and crock pot drives to benefit the local community. I feel very fortunate to be the representative of both the Class of 2021 and the Student Council, and I plan to be on similar committees in college.

I will be attending UMass Amherst in the fall and I will be studying education. I have ambitions of becoming a high school teacher one day. I enjoy working with people and helping my peers reach their goals. Throughout my high school career I have been fortunate enough to have stellar teachers that make me look forward to coming to school everyday, and

I want to have that same impact on my future students.

Olive Pinette

My name is Olive Pinette. I am the daughter of Valerie and Lee Pinette of Bellows Falls, Vt.

Throughout my time at Bellows Falls Union High School, I have participated in community service through coaching youth field hockey and volunteering at Riverside Medical Associates. I am a member of the National Honor Society. I played field hockey freshman and sophomore year, and ultimate frisbee my sophomore year.

I will be attending Virginia Commonwealth University in the fall of 2021. I am majoring in health sciences on the career path to becoming a physical therapist.

Mary-Elizabeth Rawling

My name Mary-Elizabeth Rawling. I am the daughter of Amy Bumford-Rawling of Bel-

lows Falls, Vt.

I have been enrolled in the health careers program at the River Valley Technical Center for two years. I am currently employed at Springfield Rivers Nursing Home and have my temporary LNA. This job provides me with additional skills and hands-on practice for when I take the state test in a few weeks.

Ever since I was a little girl, I can remember the excitement of the Alumni Parade. Now that I am older, I can appreciate the traditions and amount of work required that goes into it. I am the youngest in a long line of Bellows Falls Terriers. Even though there is no parade this year, I am honored to be chosen for the Alumni Court.

Isabel Stack

My name is Isabel Stack. I am the daughter of Diane and Keith Stack from Saxtons River, Vt.

While attending the Bellows

Falls Union High School, I have been a part of the girls varsity soccer team for four years; my senior year I was named captain. I also participated in track my freshman year. I am a part of the Student Council, Prom Committee, Yearbook Committee, and a member of NHS. I also played varsity hockey for Hartford High School for three years; my junior year I was named assistant captain, and my senior year I was captain.

Currently, I am working at MKT in Grafton, and when summer starts I will also be working at the Grafton Elementary School, as a student teacher.

Next year I will be going to Saint Michael's College in Colchester, Vt., where I will study early education and psychology.

I have really enjoyed my high school years and have made amazing friends. I am also a huge animal person!

Bellows Falls residents weigh in on Area Wide Plan

BY BETSY THURSTON

The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – On Thursday, June 10, the first of three public meetings was held to discuss the Area Wide Plan developed by Rockingham Development Director Gary Fox.

Mark Westa, ASLA from Stevens & Associates in Brattleboro, discussed the assets and challenges while asking for public input. Two meetings were held with property owners and merchants during the day with the public meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Fox explained the purpose of the Area Wide Plan was to set implementable goals and identify five developable projects. The plan includes the 47 acres of the Island "under the hill," or Lower Mill zone, and the downtown square of Bellows Falls.

Westa encouraged attendees to add to the list of assets as well as highlighted S&A's findings. He listed physical assets of the parcel including the canal, rapids, passenger and freight rail, the Waypoint Center, Vilas Bridge, Depot Bridge, and Bridge Street Bridge, the Abenaki petroglyphs, the Square, scenic views, and T.L. Riley park access.

The list of visual assets included the railroad; train and bus station; the creamery, Vilas Bridge; Waypoint Center; Studio, Upper and Lower Mill areas; the Post Office; and Adam's Grist Mill.

For public input, lister Camilla Roberts mentioned the trail to

the right of Bridge Street. Pat Fowler, owner of Village Square Booksellers, said it would be nice to have one document to share with visitors that identified the available walking paths.

Westa explained restrictions included the dam, rail connections, and railyards. Twenty-one of the 47 acres are owned by Green Mountain Railroad and Great River Hydro.

Bettina Eames, PG of Nobis Group in Concord, N.H., gave an overview of the brownfields inventory and listed the challenges to development. Though complicating matters, reinvesting in brownfield sites increases the tax base and by utilizing existing infrastructure it can improve and protect the environment.

Selectboard member Rick Cowan asked about residential use on the Island. Fox said it was an accessory use, explaining that commercial space with condominium or rentals above were allowed, but not residential housing by itself in the current zoning.

Village Trustee Jeff Dunbar said, "As we develop the Island... we need a place for people to stay." He referenced the canal in Providence, R.I., and suggested that green areas be in and around industrial centers.

Emmett Dunbar of Canal Street Art Gallery said the zone map showed possible walking routes. He suggested they use basic signs to create awareness about where pedestrians could

access the trails safely without trespassing.

Duane Case suggested incorporating the village and downtown together but developing a different sense of place. He said, "I like the idea of mixed use as much as possible."

Robert McBride of Rockingham Arts Museum Project said, "We need a mixture of housing and commerce," and highlighted the views and walkability of downtown.

The Area Wide Plan listed Bellows Falls with a walkable score of 70. As a comparison to nearby metropolitan areas, Boston is No. 3 with 72 and Washington, D.C. is No. 4 with 71. The walk score algorithm measures the walkability of a place based upon the proximity of amenities.

Cathy Bergmann of the Bellows Falls Historical Society said she thought they would talk about what was already in place, explaining that they had spent 15 years developing the Riverfront Park and Trails on Mill Street to offer the village a green space but some in the community, "do not know it exists."

Selectboard member Elijah Zimmer agreed with Bergmann. "We should be looking at our assets and how to integrate them with sustainable development."

Cowan asked how to better

See AREA on Page 2A

David Stern to bring musical theater to Waypoint Center

BY BILL LOCKWOOD

The Shopper

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – David Stern has been known as the artistic director and the face of Main Street Arts in Saxtons River and for bringing big stage Broadway musicals such as "Chicago," "Jesus Christ Superstar," and "Sweeney Todd" to the Bellows Falls Opera House. He was bringing "Cabaret" there March of last year, but it was postponed two days before opening because of the Covid-19 pandemic. Main Street Arts ultimately "went dormant," laying off its three employees including Stern.

Since then Stern has been freelancing and working quite a bit at home. He is versatile having skills as a designer, teacher, artist, and director. His resume includes teaching at Springfield High School, Kimball Union School, Swathmore College, and a year in Morocco. He has designed at Weston Play-



David Stern at his amphitheater. PHOTO BY BILL LOCKWOOD

house and other New England theaters. He says, "This winter I did about 30 paintings." Also working at home on Zoom he organized a new theater company, the Wild Goose Players, under the umbrella of Next Stage Arts in Putney. First rehearsing on Zoom, he is now bringing a production of the musical "A Year With Frog and Toad" to be performed outdoors at the Waypoint Center in Bellows Falls. It is an adaptation of the Frog and

Toad children's books by Arnold Lobel.

Home for Stern is a farm on Bald Hill Road in Westminster. He and his wife Vanessa, an elementary school teacher in Springfield, bought it from the actor Louis Guzman who lived there in his Vermont days. It abuts the Bald Hill Nature Pre-

serve that stretches to the high school and Basin Farm. Stern says, "We have been here at 'Hog Heaven' for 20 years. Over the years we have raised pigs, goats, sheep, chickens, ducks, rabbits, and two veal calves." There is a pond that has frogs and toads.

The original idea was that the musical would be presented its first weekend outdoors in Putney then have an invited gala

See STERN on Page 2A

Detour on I-91 Exit 6 starting June 21

ROCKINGHAM, Vt. – Starting Monday, June 21 at 7 a.m., the Exit 6 southbound off-ramp on Interstate-91 will be closed for the week to

allow for milling and paving of the ramp.

All motorists wanting to use Exit 6 southbound off-ramp will be detoured to Exit 7

southbound off-ramp, then follow a signed detour on Route 5 southbound.

The ramp is expected to re-open Friday, June 25 by 5 p.m.

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Kurn Hattin celebrates 13 graduates

WESTMINSTER, Vt. – Despite a difficult year with many challenges, 13 eighth graders at Kurn Hattin Homes for Children did a remarkable job staying the course, which was capped off with all 13 graduating Saturday, June 5, 2021. Valedictorian Deja Nasta remarked, “All of us are leaving here with amazing memories. Kurn Hattin has done so much for all of us. We all made great friends. We all went on amazing trips that we probably wouldn’t have gone on if we weren’t here. We have so much to thank Kurn Hattin for but we did that by ending the year on a great note and leaving here happy.”

Several students received one or more awards. The Residential Good Citizenship Award for the student who is most helpful and cooperative with other students went to True Martel. The Residential Suitcase Award for eighth graders who show outstanding progress went to Stewart Hartwell and Kaitlin Monroe. The Maiola Athletic Award for all-around athletic excellence went to Grace Perkins. The Woodhull Music Award for Choir Award went to Anthony Davis; Jazz Band to Logan White; Most Overall Talented to Deja Nasta and Logan White; and the Instrument Award to Logan White. The Massachusetts Board of Directors’ Award for excellence in

writing went to Anthony Davis and Grace Perkins. The Alumni Association Award for students who embody the spirit of Kurn Hattin through their kindness to others and their participation in all aspects of campus life went to Brieona Figueroa and Ryan Nguyen. The Eleanor Ward Achievement Award for the eighth grader showing the greatest improvement went to Stewart Hartwell. The John P. Barry & Christopher W. Barry Award for the student who exemplifies the Kurn Hattin spirit and shows acts of kindness to staff and students throughout the school year went to True Martel. The W.I. Mayo Memorial Award for outstand-

ing all-around achievement by an eighth grader went to Logan White. The Vincenzo James Ruggiero Memorial Scholarship Award went to Brieona Figueroa and William Anderson. The Robert P. Hubbard Memorial Scholarship Award for a current or past graduate who has an aptitude for art, literature, writing or the visual arts went to Anthony Davis and Nicholas Mills-Smith.

Six Kurn Hattin alumnae were awarded the Thomas G. Fahner Scholarship Award: Ashley Minchenko-Diaz, Class of 2004; Sarah Norman, Class of 2009; Kylie Wood, Class of 2009; Reginald Watson, Class of 2015; Isabelle Marsh, Class



Back, from left to right: Anthony Davis, Allie Hutchins, True Martel, Nicholas Mills-Smith, Ryan Nguyen, Logan White, and Kaitlin Monroe. Front from left to right: William Anderson, Stewart Hartwell, Brieona Figueroa, Grace Perkins, and Deja Nasta.

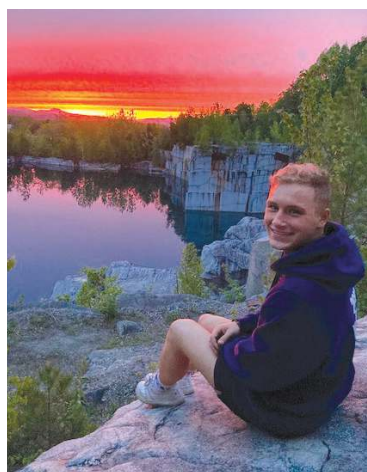
PHOTO BY KRISTIE LISAI

of 2017; and Zachery Yarosz, Class of 2017. Congratulations to the Kurn Hattin Class of 2021!

Ascutney Mountain Audubon scholarship

ASCUTNEY, Vt. – Ascutney Mountain Audubon has selected Brandon Hennessey from Windsor High School as the recipient of its 2020 \$1,000 scholarship. The scholarship is awarded to a graduating high school senior who lives within certain Vermont designated towns and has demonstrated a strong commitment to the environment. Students are required to submit an application to the Vermont Student Assis-

stance Corporation during the annual application time period. Brandon is planning on attending the University of Southern California and hopes to major in environmental science. He recently replied to AMAS saying, “Thank you to AMAS! I’m so happy to be recognized by you all. My passion and curiosity for the environment and conservation was brought about by the hard work of groups like yours, and



Brandon Hennessey. PHOTO PROVIDED

make such great contributions within our community. Education of our youth is especially important, and teaching younger generations to appreciate the natural world while also living in accordance with all of it is essential to one’s wellbeing and the future of our planet. Thank you for valuing my education and your support!”

AMAS congratulates Brandon and wishes him much success in his environmental activities and in his college career. For more information about the AMAS scholarship, please contact Wilda Pelton at 802-885-9517 or consult with your school guidance department for information on VSAC scholarships.

my continued work with the Green Mountain Conservation Camp was largely inspired by the achievements of smaller, more locally run conservation groups that have been able to

AREA

From Page 1A

promote the Abenaki petroglyphs. Deborah Fox of Vermont By Rail and VT420Tours said the railroad was visited by the tribe years ago, requesting that it remain inaccessible be-

cause of its sacred value to the Abenaki. McBride suggested that there should be an offsite display, offering recognition and education of the petroglyphs.

Cowan suggested a sanctuary near the trails and said birders spend money. Nationally, the average annual spending of birdwatchers is \$1,500-\$3,500. According to a 2011 economic

impact study, Vermont has the highest participation rate of birders in the country.

Marsha Stern explained she was new to the village but had found the Riverfront Park easily. She suggested that outdoor exercise equipment be incorporated.

Deborah Fox said there is potential in Bellows Falls to pro-

vide a niche market for train enthusiasts.

For residents who missed the meeting and would like to add their comments to the discussion, contact Gary Fox at development@rockbf.org. The second public meeting to begin concept development of future projects will be announced at a later date.

STERN

From Page 1A

fundraiser July 2 at Stern’s farm. There is an amphitheater in the woods used for family events and expanded in 2016 for Stern’s son Josh’s wedding. The show was to be staged there with a reception by the pond. Then the rest of the public performances would be done there as well.

Deborah Collier, director of The Great Falls Regional Chamber of Commerce, sug-

gested Stern stage the show at the Waypoint Center where the Chamber’s office is. He agreed and now all the public performances, both weekends, will be at the Waypoint Center. Collier says, “It brings vibrancy back to the community... I think it’s wonderful to make use of this beautiful facility.”

The promo for the Tony Award nominated musical notes its “upbeat, jazzy, vaudeville score” by Robert Reale.

Stern says, “The music is fantastic, great family fun.”

The story line, of the five actors playing various forest creatures, follows the turn of seasons in the lives of Frog and his friend Toad. Children who attend will each receive a Frog and Toad book courtesy of one of the sponsors, Oak Meadow School. It opens June 25 at 6:30 p.m. and runs the next two days at 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m., and again July 3 and 4 at 4 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. There are rain dates. For information, call Next Stage Arts at 802-451-0053 or email info@nextstagearts.org.

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LOCAL HISTORY

BY RON PATCH

Ron Patch is a Chester native, Chester Historical Society president, and a lifelong antiques dealer.

He can be reached at 802-374-0119 or email knotz69@gmail.com

E.H. Jenkins

Last summer when Frank Bidwell, Danny Clemons, Peter Farrar, and I were working at the historical society, Tom Hildreth stopped by. Dave Amidon from Connecticut, an acquaintance of Tom's, had contacted Tom about his "Abbott" family members who had served in the Civil War from Vermont. Dave's family has roots in the Chester-Springfield area. Dave graduated Springfield High School in 1955.

I keep my copy of Peck's Roster of Vermont Civil War Soldiers and Sailors at the historical society. We often need it for research. There are over 30,000 Vermont soldiers, sailors, sharpshooters, and cavalrymen listed. These listings record the town from which the soldier enlisted, his regiment and company, along with his service record. Using Peck's Roster, Tom copied Abbott soldier records for Dave.

Last month, in appreciation of Tom's efforts, Dave drove up to Tom's house to donate a box of old photos for the Chester Historical Society. It's a great collection of Chester photos. Some we have yet to identify. Tom scanned a number of the more interesting photos. The photo with this article is one of the photos Tom scanned. I had never seen this photo before nor has Danny Clemons. That should tell you something.

The photo

Ed Jenkins sits in his delivery wagon just south of the green. You are looking toward the green. The hearse house can be seen on the right. Ed was parked about in front of Sarah Vail's Law Office. You can see his dog resting his chin on Ed's knee. Ed was born in 1861 and died in 1942. This photo would date to 1910-1915, give or take a couple years either way. You'll notice Ed has a folded blanket he sits on for padding. These were hard riding rigs espe-



Ed Jenkins delivery wagon.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY DAVE AMIDON

cially on old bones.

Delivery wagon

Underneath the seat on the side is painted, "J.H. Jenkins Chester Depot." On the side of the wagon is painted, "FURNITURE." Jenkins ran a furniture store where Pinske is today. He carried a full line of the latest furniture styles and made deliveries.

Most wagons we see of this period carried heavy loads of firewood, soapstone, or other heavy loads. These were heavy-duty rigs with wheels up to four inches wide.

This is a very lightweight rig. A load of furniture would weigh a fraction of a load of stone or firewood so a heavy-duty wagon wasn't required. Notice how narrow the wheels are. They are more like wheels you'd find on a buggy. It's a sexy little rig. His horse is a handsome, well-groomed animal, well cared for.

Howard Peck

Howard told me a couple interesting stories he witnessed regarding Ed Jenkins. Ed lived up North Main Street on the left. On the opposite side of the street was a field where Orcutt Drive is today. Ed owned a portion of this field where he grew crops.

It was in the 1920s when a biplane made an unscheduled landing in Ed's field. Howard told me the plane damaged Ed's crops, but the real crop damage occurred when dozens of residents stormed the field to see the plane.

Next to the Civil War monu-

ment is our cannon. Some will remember when there were large cannon balls next to the cannon. In the 1960s some kids, usually late at night, would roll the cannon balls down the street. We called it bowling. This is not an admission of guilt on my part.

Howard told me in the 1920s, kids of his generation did the same thing. Howard said Ed Jenkins was coming down Main Street late one night when the kids were bowling. Ed was driving his new Nash when he drove over a cannon ball. It tore the front end out of the Nash. How the kids did scatter.

Before I move on, Andy Ojanen told me about the time Charlie Crouch wanted one of the cannon balls. These cannon balls weigh about 125 pounds each. Charlie backed his car up to the cannon balls and opened his trunk.

Charlie muddled on to a cannon ball and lifted it up and dropped it in his trunk. Well, his trunk was a little rusted. The cannon ball went through the trunk floor landing at Charlie's feet.

For our June 24 slideshow, I will include these photos Tom scanned. There are some real beauties. We hope someone present will be able to identify photos Danny and I can't.

Instead of an old saying I have a question. Do you remember "Boom, boom, Boomtown!?"

Ghost Walk in Cavendish

CAVENDISH, Vt. – The Dut-ton House that once sat on the Cavendish Village Green was considered so haunted the locals avoided it. In 1950, the spirits seemed to go with the house when it was relocated to Shelburne Museum. Today, it's considered Champlain Valley's most haunted place as museum staff and volunteers have talked

about a man, children, and other specters that seem to haunt the place. As a result, many prefer not to work in there.

On Saturday, June 19, the Cavendish Historical Society will be hosting a "ghost walk" of Cavendish Village, where "haunts" and places of "exceptional human experiences" will be visited. The tour begins at 8 p.m. in front of

the CHS Museum, 1951 Main Street, Route 131 in Cavendish. Wear comfortable shoes and bring a flashlight.

The tour is free and open to the public. CHS welcomes all stories relating to houses and places in Cavendish and Proctorsville. For more information, email margocaulfield@icloud.com or call 802-226-7807.

History of Local Canal available on Fact TV

BELLOWS FALLS, Vt. – Dr. David Deacon's May 25 presentation on "A Social History of the Bellows Falls Canal" is now available for viewing at any time by accessing Fact TV's website, www.fact8.com, and searching for it by title.

Deacon's talk describes the canal development, ending in 1927. This history encompasses the village's related mercantile business and the period of the paper mills, complete with his-

toric photos.

Deacon moved to Bellows Falls in 1980 and graduated from Bellows Falls Union High School in 1981. He went on to Marlboro College and then to the University of North Carolina for a master's degree in folklore. His concentration in American history was at Syracuse University where he earned a master's degree and a doctorate. The Bellows Falls paper mill industry features

prominently in his doctoral thesis: "Paper Town, Sense of Place in Industrial Small-Town New England 1869-1927" He is an adjunct professor of history at SUNY and at Onondaga Community College in Syracuse, N.Y.

This presentation was sponsored by the Rockingham Historic Preservation Commission, the Bellows Falls Historical Society, and the Rockingham Library.

"Growing Up in 'Derry'" exhibit at the Londonderry Arts and Historical Society

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Londonderry Arts and Historical Society summer history exhibit, "Growing Up in 'Derry,'" opens Saturday, June 26 and runs through the month of July at the Custer Sharp House, 2461 Middletown Road.

The exhibit will feature toys from days gone by, chores, school memorabilia, and childhood memories from those who spent their youth here between 1920 and 2020. Viewers will be able to draw parallels and differ-

ences in growing up here over the last 100 years. Also on display will be paintings and drawings of Londonderry's youth by Bernadine Custer Sharp, which are part of the LAHS collection as well as some enlargements of Everett Vaile's glass plates, which have never before been seen in large size. Exhibit hours are Wednesdays and Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

If you have any thing you would like to contribute to the show, please contact Mimi



"Painting of Youth," PHOTO PROVIDED

Wright at 802-824-6560. Visit the www.LAHSVT.org for more information on other events and programming. To schedule an appointment, email us at lahs1780@gmail.com.

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community news

Eileen Austin Neal Nursing Scholarship applications deadline extended

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Applications are still being accepted for the 16th Annual Eileen Austin Neal Nursing Scholarship of \$1,000. This scholarship is open to any student who has been accepted into a nursing program of study. Applicants will be judged on interest in and commitment to the field of nursing. Determination will be based on merit and need.

Eileen Austin Neal was a registered nurse at Springfield Hospital for 64 years, retiring in 2005. She was the first re-

ipient of Springfield Hospital's Community Health Award in 2003. In 2004, the hospital established the Spirit of Nursing Award in recognition of her many years of dedicated service.

Upon her death in February 2006, at the request of Eileen's family, Springfield Hospital established a nursing scholarship fund in her name with the gifts received in her memory. "This scholarship continues the positive influence Eileen had on both nursing and the commu-

nity," said Lyndsy McIntyre, VP of Patient Care Services at Springfield Hospital.

The deadline for accepting applications has been extended until June 25. Scholarship applications are available by visiting www.springfieldhospital.org.

If you would like more information, please contact Sandy Peplau in the Marketing & Development office by email at speplau@springfieldmed.org or call 802-885-7686.

Senior Solutions relaxes Covid-19 restrictions

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Senior Solutions, part of the Council on Aging for South-eastern Vermont, is looking forward to relaxing the Covid-19 restrictions that temporarily changed the way we provided services to our older adults. We had to be very flexible and creative, and in fact this has led to some very worthwhile programs. Now our Windham and Windsor County Senior Centers are getting ready to open their doors again to activities both inside and outdoors.

While some centers remained open for only outdoor activities and the preparation and distribution of Meals on Wheels to those of us who could not prepare our food, all the senior centers are brainstorming ways to safely welcome their community members back. Some, but not all, will limit the number of people allowed to gather at any given time for meals and other benefits. The key is to call your senior center to learn whether and when you can make a reservation for limited seats.

Here are the phone numbers:

- Bugbee Center in White River Junction, Mark Bradley, director, 802-295-9068
- Thompson Center in Woodstock, Deanna Jones, director, 802-457-3277
- Springfield Senior Center, Lori Johnson, director, 802-885-3933
- Bellows Falls Senior Center, Teagan Kosut, director, 802-463-3907
- Brattleboro Senior Center, Sarah Clark, activities director, 802-257-7570

To get a good overview of what some of our senior centers are doing this sum-

mer, please go to Brattleboro Community TV, or YouTube and search "Keeping Up with Senior Solutions." Select Episode 17. We interviewed Sarah Clark, Deanna Jones, and Mark Bradley, who were all very informative about their plans to reengage with all their community members. It sounds like there will be some wonderful activities and classes this summer.

If you missed some of our programs, you can still check our website at www.seniorsolutionsvt.org and find important information. Senior Solutions offers so many answers to our concerns as we age that you will want to check the website regularly. You can, for example, explore handy ways to "Boost Your Budget." We have interviews about self-neglect, Medicaid and Medicare Savings plans, 3SquaresVT/SNAP, and so much more.

Later this summer you will be seeing a number of messages about ways to "Close the Gap" and make it easier for us all to complete our vaccines. Vermont has been very successful in drastically reducing the spread of Covid-19, and helping us all get back to leading more normal lives with the people we love. So let's not stop a few feet from the finish line. If you know someone who has had difficulty accessing the vaccine, give them some help. Sometimes making the online appointment is the obstacle or maybe it is the lack of transportation. There is a solution to every problem. If you can't figure it out, give Senior Solutions a call at 802-885-2669 and we will try to find the answer for you.

As we look back at all the hard work the many volunteer visitors engaged in during the Covid-19 lockdown to make sure people were not totally

isolated, we can look forward to reconnecting and visiting so much more comfortably. Also, the past 16 months have been extremely wearing on our volunteers. Many of them need some rest. A lot of us are so happy to be able to visit our extended families, that we are planning vacations now. This means that Senior Solutions is experiencing a gap between requests for visitors and the actual volunteer pool of available help. Until we get an influx of new volunteers, if you want to be taken shopping or have other non-emergency requests, you may be placed on a short waiting list. Please be patient.

We are so proud of all the Vermonters who have led the way to achieving a high level of vaccinations across the state. Our older population has the highest vaccination rate in the country. That shows how seriously they take their responsibilities. Let's not let them down. Call our Help Line at 802-885-2669 and say you want to be a volunteer visitor or volunteer shopper.

This need is extremely high in Bellows Falls, Brattleboro, Springfield, and Chester. In the Newfane area we need Vet-to-Vet Volunteer Visitors and Friendly Visitors. If you haven't volunteered before, you will discover how good it feels to step up and spend a few hours with someone who really appreciates your company. So, call 802-885-2669 now.

If you are a veteran or if you know one, please watch the recorded interview available on YouTube, BCTV's website, and our site: www.seniorsolutionsvt.org. You will see former Brattleboro American Legion Commandant John Hagen talk with us about the veterans' code of service. It is truly inspiring!

Area students named to honors lists for spring semester

Castleton University Dean's List:

- Emery Benoit, Cavendish
- Kolbi Briere, Springfield
- Saima Cassell, Westminster
- Adam Debartolo, Perkinsville
- Mariah Hazard, Jamaica
- Maureen Hughes, Westminster
- Taylor Hunter, North Springfield
- Nicholas Jarvis, Perkinsville
- Rebekah Lazarek, Westminster
- Sarah McHugh, Mount Holly

- Adam Pate, Mount Holly
- Laura Vogell, Springfield
- Deacon Watson, Springfield
- Madison Wilson, Chester

Castleton University President's List:

- Greer Bills, Wardsboro
- Noah Distefano, West Townshend
- Erik Heitsmith, Ludlow
- Alexandra Hutchins, Springfield
- Scarlett Pugliese, South Londonderry

- Breanna Stilwell, Springfield
- Olivia Wright, Chester

Husson University President's List:

- Alan J. Aldrich, Springfield

James Madison University President's List:

- Alexia White, Chester

St. Lawrence University Dean's List:

- Olivia Bernier, Andover

Improve your step with pedorthics

LONDONDERRY, Vt. – Do you suffer from knee, hip, back, or heel pain? Do you have bunions, corns, hammer toe, or balance issues? Gretchen Lima, a certified pedorthist, will be at Neighborhood Connections Tuesday, June 22 at 2 p.m. to discuss how she modifies footwear to ease and treat foot-re-

lated problems. "Most people have not had their feet measured in 15-30 years," says Gretchen, who works as a pedorthist at Manchester's Family Footwear Center, "and are wearing the wrong size or type shoes. Many could benefit from arch support or cushions." Gretchen will be

measuring feet at this presentation. Space is limited, so call 802-824-4343 to attend.

Neighborhood Connections is a nonprofit social services agency located in Londonderry's Mountain Marketplace, next to the Post Office.

Whiting Library conducting community survey

CHESTER, Vt. – The Whiting Library wants to hear from you! The library has sent out a community-wide survey looking for the opinions and input of all Chester and Andover residents. Whether you use the library every day or just heard of the library now, your voice counts.

Whiting Library will use the answers to the survey to develop the services and programs that fit the needs of the community going forward. Answering the survey will help the library understand

the values you hold for the community in order to create a new strategic plan. This is your public library and the staff and library board are dedicated to making it the best possible resource for the community.

You may have already received a copy of the survey in the mail. Please fill it out and return it to the library. Alternatively, you can fill out the library survey online using this link: <https://tinyurl.com/c3ftc5e5>. There are computers and internet at the library for

your use if you need technology assistance to fill the survey out online. You can also call the library at 802-875-2277 or come in and a staff member can read the survey questions to you and fill in your answers. It's important that the survey be accessible to everyone, so if there is another way to help you fill out the survey, just let a staff member know.

Each person in your household is invited to fill out this survey, just as each person in your household is welcome to get their own individual

library card. Filling out the survey can enter you to win a raffle prize of a Yeti Tundra 45 Cooler. You will need to provide your contact details on the survey if you wish to win the cooler, one entry per person. And, of course, you also get the pleasure of contributing to the vitality of your community, helping to create a healthy, connected, entertaining, and fun place to live. Everyone at Whiting Library will be deeply grateful for your help and will report back the survey results soon.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

3	2		4			7		
	9				3			5
		5		2				6
2			5			6	4	
	8				7			1
		1		6		2		
	7		3		5			4
8				4				1
		3			6	9		

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Egyptian deity
- 5 Piercing tool
- 8 Probability
- 12 Lion's share
- 13 Hot tub
- 14 Stench
- 15 Unoriginal one
- 16 Home to the Buccaneers
- 18 Pizza topping
- 20 Wine container
- 21 Off-white
- 23 Dict. info
- 24 Spoofs
- 28 Pharmaceutical
- 31 Playwright Levin
- 32 Leg bone
- 34 Mentalist's gift
- 35 Rhett's last word
- 37 Mildew cause
- 39 Scratch
- 41 Valentine flower
- 42 Molds
- 45 Foliage
- 49 Marshmallow toaster
- 51 Carousel, for one
- 52 "I cannot tell —"
- 53 Pair

DOWN

- 1 Apple computer
- 2 Former frosh
- 3 "Got it"
- 4 Meryl of film
- 5 Space rock
- 6 New Deal agcy.
- 7 Gentle soul
- 8 Gave a speech
- 9 Owing nothing
- 10 Transaction
- 11 Terrier type
- 17 Group of seals
- 19 Highlander
- 22 Release a deadbolt
- 24 Cover
- 25 Altar constellation
- 26 Abba-inspired hit musical
- 27 Buck
- 29 Constitution letters
- 30 Family docs
- 33 Church section
- 36 Caught some z's
- 38 Almost
- 40 Ump
- 42 "Lion King" villain
- 43 Saintly ring
- 44 Faction
- 46 Travel permit
- 47 Dutch cheese
- 48 Collections
- 50 Regret

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outdoor & sports

Moose hunt application deadline June 30

REGION – The deadline to apply for a 2021 Vermont moose hunting permit is June 30. Moose permit applications are available on the Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department's website, www.vtfishandwildlife.com, for the hunt limited to Vermont's Wildlife Management Unit E in the northeastern corner of the state.



The deadline to apply for a 2021 Vermont moose hunting permit is June 30.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY VERMONT FISH & WILDLIFE

"Moose density in WMU E is more than one moose per square mile, significantly higher than any other part of the state," said Nick Fortin, Vermont Fish & Wildlife's biologist in charge of the moose project. "Moose densities greater than one per square mile support high numbers of winter ticks which negatively impact moose health and survival."

The department will issue 60 either-sex moose hunting permits and 40 antlerless moose hunting permits available this year for a hunt limited to WMU E in the northeastern corner of the state. The science-based hunt will result in an estimated harvest of 51 to 66 moose, or 5% of the more than 1,000 moose currently estimated to live in WMU E.

Hunters who held a permit within the past five years are not eligible to apply for a per-

mit or to buy a bonus point. Also, although a "bonus point freeze" was in place for the 2018 and 2019 moose seasons, due to limited or no moose permits being available for those years, that is no longer in place and applicants must continue to annually submit a moose permit application if they wish to retain their past bonus points.

By law, five permits will be available to Vermont military veterans, three permits will be auctioned in accordance with regulations, and up to three permits will be available for "Special Opportunity" recipients with life-threatening illnesses.

A drawing for permit winners is scheduled for Aug. 4.

Take a walk on the nature side

REGION – In New England, the winters are long and spring seems impossibly late and muddy. So although the summers are all too short, our gardeners create extraordinary landscapes to revel in nature's wonderful colors and textures while they can.

After winters of white and steel blue gray, the brilliant yellows of the earliest daffodils pop us out of our winter sleep. Their colors are soon echoed in the bright forsythia – and dandelions! That yellow gives way to the pinks and purples of lilacs and then the rich wonder of peonies. Finally, the rainbow colors of perennials and annuals fill our lush gardens. In

this year of a pandemic, indoors seemed the only safe place to be for months on end. But now the glories of nature beckon us even more joyously to get out into our gardens and the world.

The healing and restorative power of nature has invited ever greater study as the website of the Chicago Botanical Garden states: "According to experts studying the connection between nature and well-being, the 'nurture of nature' is experienced when we immerse ourselves in natural surroundings." Japanese researchers have found that a walk in a natural environment "increased production of important white cells in the human immune system." And a British study found peo-

ple experienced "greater feelings of revitalization and decreased tension" being outdoors. For those not inclined to wander the mountains and forests, gardens and parks can offer that same regeneration and calming of spirit.

This July, you have an opportunity to discover what our gardeners know is true: a garden walk restores the spirit and engages the sense of wonder in the beauty and hope for the world. On Saturday, July 17, Green Mountain Gardeners of Landgrove, Londonderry, Peru, and Weston are sponsoring Mountain Garden Walks.

Six enchanting gardens, including a working sheep farm, have been created and nurtured

by the love, care, and experimentation of their owners. You will explore properties with mountain vistas, meandering streams, ponds for wildlife, and perennial gardens for bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds.

There is no better time or opportunity to find yourself in nature – right here in southern Vermont. Proceeds from the garden tour support the Lib Thieme Scholarship. More information on the July 17 Mountain Garden Walks and the Lib Thieme Scholarship can be found at www.facebook.com/greenmountaingardeners.

Written by Linda Saarnijoki, co-president, Green Mountain Gardeners.

Muzzleloader antlerless deer permits

MONTPELIER, Vt. – Vermont's muzzleloader season antlerless deer permit applications are now available online at Vermont Fish & Wildlife's website and from license agents. A link to the information and online applications is on the home page.

The Fish & Wildlife Board met May 19 and set antlerless deer permit numbers for the fall deer hunting seasons.

Hunting for antlerless deer will be allowed statewide during the archery season. One deer of either sex will be allowed during the Oct. 23-24 youth and novice weekend hunt. The muzzleloader seasons Oct. 28-31 and Dec. 4-12 will have antlerless permits available for 19 of Vermont's 21 Wildlife Management Units.

Landowners who post their land may not apply for a land-

owner priority muzzleloader antlerless deer permit. They are eligible to apply in the regular lottery for an antlerless deer permit.

"Yearling antler beam diameters, fawn weights, and other physical condition measures are declining or are below optimal levels in many areas, indicating that deer have exceeded the level their habitat can support long-term," said Nick

Fortin, Fish & Wildlife's deer project leader. "No population growth is expected in 2021, however, deer populations in seven WMUs will be above their respective population objectives. The goal is to reduce deer populations in those areas while stabilizing populations in other areas."

The deadline to apply for a muzzleloader antlerless deer permit is Aug. 4.

Vermont bear ages are available online

REGION – The Vermont Fish & Wildlife Department says hunters who took a bear in the 2020 bear hunting seasons can look up the age of

their bear on the department's website, www.vtfishandwildlife.com.

"Successful bear hunters help in our management of this

magnificent big game animal by providing a small pre-molar tooth from their bear," said Forrest Hammond, bear project leader for Vermont Fish & Wildlife. "We have collected pre-molar teeth from harvested bears since 1968 to evaluate age composition of the harvest and to estimate the size of the population. The teeth are sent to a laboratory in Montana for aging by cementum analysis. The oldest female was 24 years old, and the oldest male was 20 years old."

Hunters took a record 925 black bears during the two-part early and late bear seasons. The previous highest harvest ever recorded in Vermont was 750 in 2019.

Hammond says the average number of bears taken over the previous 10 years was 608, and the hunting season results are consistent with the goal of maintaining the bear population to within 3,500 to 5,500 bears.

In 2020, hunters took a majority of the bears, 831, in the early season, and only 94 in the late bear season, which overlaps with the November deer sea-

son. Most bears were taken with modern firearms, while 16% were taken by archery and 17% with the use of bear hounds.

"In addition to an abundant population and the potential of harvesting delicious and nutritious bear meat, larger numbers of bears were harvested due to several factors," said Hammond. "It was a poor year for natural bear foods, and we saw a surge in hunter numbers brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic and perhaps a corresponding increase in the number of hunters spending more time in the outdoors hunting than in past years."

Hammond says 2020 was challenging for bear management in Vermont with game wardens and bear project staff responding to more than double the number of bear-human conflicts than any year in the past. Despite the large number of bear problems and the high number of bears harvested by hunters, Hammond points out that these numbers vary each year and that the bear population remains within the 2020-2030 Big Game Plan bear population objective.

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Session 2: August 2-6 Ages 11-13	Session 2: July 26-30 Ages 11-14

Visit our website for more information or to get started registering your camper for a week of summer fun!

nature museum **GRAFTON**

arts & entertainment

Local dancers perform “Thumbelina” in outdoor shows

REGION – Come revel in a magical family-friendly production of “Thumbelina” set outdoors in early summer in Vermont. These performances are the premiere of a brand-new story ballet choreographed by Ashley Hensel-Browning set to Vermont composer Evan Premo’s “Thumbelina,” an original musical setting of Hans Christian Andersen’s tale of a tiny girl who goes on a big adventure, performed by local dancers from throughout Windsor County.



Watch the “Thumbelina” dance performance. PHOTO PROVIDED

Performances June 23 will be held at Brown Field in Springfield, Vt. at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. Performances June 25 will be held at Cobleigh Field in Chester, Vt. at 5 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

All performances will be outside and will be following current Covid-19 guidelines for outside events. Performances are free, however, a donation table will be available for folks

interested in supporting the production. This 45-minute production is perfect for audiences of all ages. Reservations are required as seating will be limited.

Tickets can be reserved by visiting www.eventbrite.com/e/thumbelina-a-vermont-grown-story-ballet-tickets-155512950421 or by emailing

dancewithashley@gmail.com with the date and time of the performance you’d like to attend and the number of people in your party.

Rain dates for the June 23 performances will be held during the same times June 24. Rain dates for the June 25 performances

will be held Saturday, June 26 at 10 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.

This production is generously supported by many members of our greater community, the Dance Factory in Springfield, Vt., and the Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation. This project is also supported by a fiscal sponsorship with the Vermont Dance Al-

liance, a nonprofit organization working to expand the visibility and accessibility of dance throughout the state of Vermont. Vermont Dance Alliance believes that dance is a transformational art form. By providing a network of resources for dance artists and educational opportunities for movers and audiences, we expand the visibility and accessibility of dance in Vermont and bolster the creative economy of the state. Learn more at www.vermontdance.org.

Ice cream social



LUDLOW, Vt. – Black River Valley Senior Center, 10 High St. in Ludlow, will hold an ice cream social and open house Monday, June 21, from 1-3 p.m. Come see what’s happening at the senior center. Masks or facial coverings are recommended, but not required, for people who are fully vaccinated. For those not yet fully vaccinated, masks or facial coverings will be required. For more information, call 802-228-7421.

STOCK PHOTO

Lively summer 2021 events at Whiting Library

CHESTER, Vt. – Reconnect with the Whiting Library this summer and renew your love of reading, learning, and community. Discover fun events and programs for kids and their caregivers through the 2021 Summer Reading Challenge “Tails and Tales,” plus The Nature Museum will once again offer an incredible seven-week series of nature programs in the library’s backyard. Flock to Whiting Library’s website or call to sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge and Nature Museum events.

By taking advantage of long summer days and spending some quality time reading with kids, you can set your children up for success. All ages can now register and pick up a Summer Reading Challenge Kit packed with fun goodies and reading incentives. Every reader will also receive a free book from the library’s book sale and fun take-n-make crafts. Then find your favor-

ite reading spot and snuggle up with a good book.

Read books, eBooks, graphic novels, or magazines, or listen to an audiobook – it all counts! Kids who share their summer reading success stories will win a gift certificate to Southern Pie Company and pick any prize from the box of toys. Plus, there will be a Summer Reading Challenge raffle grand prize drawings July 27. Registered readers will automatically be entered to win and may earn extra raffle prize tickets by attending either in person or via Facebook LIVE a Nature Museum event.

Starting June 15 for seven consecutive Tuesdays until July 27 at 11:30 a.m., an environmental educator from The Nature Museum will introduce children of all ages to the wonders of the natural world. Families will be able to set up at respectful, socially distant spots in the backyard or attend virtually on the Whiting Library Facebook LIVE page. These are truly special programs that you will not want to miss.

Families with young children are now encouraged to come to the library for an in-person story time with Carrie weekly

Fridays at 11 a.m. Story Time is held in the backyard of Whiting Library during good weather.

Reservations for all library events are encouraged yet drop ins are always welcome. Social distancing guidelines will apply. Please bring your own blanket to sit upon and any snacks your pod would enjoy.

The Summer Reading Challenge is also for adults. Whiting Library has a fun activity sheet for adults to diversify and track their summer reading with a separate raffle prize just for grown-ups. You can print out an adult Summer Reading Challenge sheet from the library website, or pick one up at the library.

Whiting Library is looking forward to offering you quality programming all summer long. Find out more information about Summer Reading Challenges for both children and adults on our website, www.whitinglibrary.org, and get details about each week’s Nature Museum program topic. Contact Carrie Roy King, Youth Librarian, to register for the Summer Reading Challenge and the Nature Museum programs at whitinglibrary3@gmail.com or by calling 802-875-2277.

VAULT Open Studio Weekend

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Gallery at the VAULT celebrates Vermont Open Studio Weekend by featuring four photographers from the current “Ver-

mont Treasures” show. You are invited to view these photographers’ work, talk photography, and enjoy refreshments.

On June 19, Len Emery will

be in the gallery from 10 a.m. to noon followed by Richard Cofrancesco from noon until 2 p.m. Jeff Spring will be in the gallery Sunday, June 20, from 10 a.m. until noon, followed by Gene Parulis, from noon until 2 p.m. Special Open Studio hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Regular hours are Wednesday and Saturday, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Friday, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

VAULT is in a 1907 bank – yes, with a real vault – in Springfield’s historic downtown. For more information, go to www.galleryvault.org or www.vermontcrafts.com.



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Acrylic painting at Springfield Art Gym

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – Local artist Debra Craigue will be teaching an acrylic painting class June 26, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the Springfield Art Gym, 62 Clinton St., Springfield, Vt. Deb supplies the canvas, all the paints, and even lunch. Please contact Deb by email for price and registration, Nicnat8587@gmail.com.

This painting is a primitive titled, “Small Town.”



“Small Town” painting.

PHOTO PROVIDED

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arts & entertainment

Saxtons River author children's book debut

SAXTONS RIVER, Vt. – Nikki Samuels, a current resident of Saxtons River in Windham County, announces the preorder release of her debut children's book, "Nature Parade." Inspired by her two young children, as well as her nature-based teaching experience, Samuels seeks to bring the wonder of the outdoors to children everywhere through the pages of her picture book.

Samuels has always been drawn to nature and education. Attending college in Maryland along the banks of the St. Mary's River, she first realized her passion for teaching. After moving to New England and obtaining her MAT in elementary education, she moved to the Rocky Mountain West where she experienced the incredible benefits of the outdoors for children. Recently settling in the Green Mountains of Vermont, Samuels is expanding her commitment to childhood education this July with the national release of her debut picture book, "Nature



"Nature Parade."

PHOTO PROVIDED

Parade." She hopes this book will encourage children to get outside, play, and explore the natural wonders of Vermont.

Written for children ages 2-6 years old, "Nature Parade" is an imaginative story of outdoor adventure accompanied by whimsical illustrations. With lyrical rhythm, the story follows the footsteps of a child's favorite pair of shoes as they discover each unique sound of the outdoors and how they harmonize into one magnificent

song. Perfect for young explorers, this interactive read aloud transforms story time with cascading sounds and movements. This is sure to be a book children will want to read over and over again.

"Nature Parade" is the perfect addition to any early childhood and lower elementary classroom, forest school program, daycare, or home library. Published by Tiny Twigs Press, this title will be released in July 2021. Preorder is now available exclusively at www.tinytwigspress.com. For more information, contact the author at nikki@tinytwigspress.com. Follow on Instagram @ [nikkisamuelsauthor](https://www.instagram.com/nikkisamuelsauthor) and @ [tinytwigspress](https://www.instagram.com/tinytwigspress).

Edgar May's Climbing Tower grand opening

SPRINGFIELD, Vt. – The new climbing tower at the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center in Springfield, Vt., will officially open Saturday, June 19 with a grand opening celebration. The event will take place between 9 a.m.-1 p.m. The public is welcome to come learn about the different programs and activities that will be available as well as try out the 36-foot tower.

The event will also feature a fitness class demonstration at 8 a.m. on the new outdoor fitness turf area. The class, Toning on the Turf, is a body weight exercise class and perfect for beginners. Led by fitness instructor Corrina Johnson, the class will be composed of cardiovascular and strength elements. You can register by calling 802-885-2568 or through the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center app.

Once the class is over, it will be time to climb. The Edgar May climbing staff will be on hand to belay participants that want to give the tower a shot. Featuring three sides of

climbing and six belay stations, there is a little bit for everyone. Staff will also be on hand to discuss upcoming programs and opportunities to get involved. At 10 a.m. and 12 p.m., the Edgar May staff will provide a demonstration on the Dangle Duo, a challenge course element that promotes teamwork, communication, and some ingenuity.

The climbing tower was funded by donations from more than 90 individuals, businesses, and foundations. Local business support has come from Lawrence and Wheeler Insurance, Bibens Ace Hardware, Springfield Printing Corporation, Springfield Housing Authority, HB Energy, and All Seasons Construction. Foundations that have supported the project through grants have included the Cherry Family Foundation, Mascoma Bank Foundation, RiseVT, the Jack and Dorothy Byrne Foundation, Claremont Savings Bank Foundation, and the Charles Wood Foundation.

For those looking to be involved in this exciting project, donations are still being accepted to finish the build out and purchase of amenities for the space,



Edgar May to host a grand opening of their climbing tower. PHOTO PROVIDED

including benches, storage, and other equipment, or to support scholarships for climbing programs for youth. The Edgar May is also seeking volunteers to help belay, instruct, and support the operations of the tower.

For more information about the climbing tower and outdoor fitness area, you may call the Edgar May Health and Recreation Center at 802-885-2568 or email info@edgarmay.org. Information about this project will be updated at www.edgarmay.org.

Fletcher Farm School announces return of Craft Festivals

LUDLOW, Vt. – The Fletcher Farm School's Craft Festival is returning Saturday, July 3, 2021, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., and will be held rain or shine. This is a chance to return to local craft shopping after a year of the Covid-19 pandemic. The festival will feature many new vendors in addition to returning favorites.

In addition to some excellent shopping, we will provide music, craft demonstrations, and food. Our Gift and Craft Shop will also be open, and school staff will be on hand to answer any questions about this summer's class offerings. There is no admission fee for the festival.

The Fletcher Farm School Booth will also be selling tickets



Fletcher Farm Craft Fair is Saturday, July 3.

PHOTO PROVIDED

for this year's special raffle for an exquisite Baltimore Album Quilt, hand-applied by Viola Greening. This quilt has been appraised for \$6,800. The drawing for the winner of the quilt

will be held on Valentine's Day, Feb. 14, 2022. Tickets may be purchased at the booth.

For more information, go to www.fletcherfarm.org.

Savings Bank of Walpole announces Concerts on the Green

WALPOLE, N.H. – Savings Bank of Walpole is excited to announce the dates and bands scheduled to perform at the annual Concerts on the Green summer concert series.

The eight-concert series, which is held on the town green in Walpole, N.H., will kick off Sunday, July 11 with the Keene American Legion Band. All shows will be held rain or shine Sundays from 6:30-8 p.m. Attendees are encouraged to pack a picnic basket and bring a blanket or lawn chair. This year

marks the 38th year SBW has underwritten the series of concerts – and a welcome return of the series after the cancellation of last year's schedule due to the pandemic.

"We're pleased to be able to bring the sounds of summer back to our community after we were forced to cancel last year," says Mark Bodin, president for Savings Bank of Walpole. "In addition to showcasing some great local bands, we're excited to provide a fun-filled evening of family entertainment to area

residents."

- Summer 2021 schedule**
- July 11, Keene American Legion Band
 - July 18, Springfield Community Band
 - July 25, Westmoreland Town Band
 - Aug. 1, Nelson Town Band
 - Aug. 8, The Temple Band
 - Aug. 15, Brattleboro American Legion Band
 - Aug. 22, The Residential Band
 - Aug. 29, East Bay Jazz Ensemble

Cavendish announces 2021 Summer Concert Series

CAVENDISH, Vt. – Now that outdoor gatherings are permitted, the town of Cavendish will present the annual summer music series Wednesday evenings starting July 7 at 6 p.m. on the Svec Memorial Green in Proctorsville.

Things are different now, and we must behave differently. We encourage wearing masks and physical distancing. The green is large and the bands will be loud enough to be heard throughout, so please spread out and maintain distancing. Of course, for those who are fully vaccinated there are fewer restrictions.

The lineup begins July 7 with a band that will fix what ails you, The Break Maids. While this is their first time at the Cavendish concerts, the Break Maids are celebrating 10 years of riotous glam-stomp music that spans genres and breaks hearts at 70 paces.

On July 14, performing traditional Cajun music from the heart of southwest Louisiana, Yankee Chank returns to the green. Yankee Chank has been performing both Cajun and Zydeco music around Vermont and beyond since 1996.

On July 21, The Silverbacks, a five-piece blues and classic rock band from Brandon will play for the first time at the Proctorsville venue. They play "rockin' blues and

bluesy rock" tastefully rocking, but not heavy.

The July 28 concert sees the return of Rick Davis and Friends, who wowed the Proctorsville Green last summer. Rick and his friends have been a staple of the Vermont music scene for many years.

On Aug. 4, the music genre shifts to perennial local favorite Gypsy Reel who play high energy, stirring music rooted in the Celtic tradition but garnered worldwide.

The series finishes Aug. 11 with the return of the Gully Boys, a professional rock jam band from the Green Mountains, presenting an amalgamation of style, sound, and personality that makes them unique, but with a comfortable familiarity.

The Cavendish Community and Conservation Association will again coordinate the series. All concerts are free and open to the public, so grab your lawn chair, a picnic, and a cold drink, and join your friends and neighbors to enjoy plenty of rollicking good music from the gazebo. Murdock's Restaurant, Singleton's Market, and Outer

Limits Brewery each serve take-out food, so please support your local businesses.

The summer concert series has a long history in Proctorsville and many area residents reserve Wednesday evenings to listen to the live music. As always, the concerts will be held unless severe weather threatens. In case of rain, alternative plans will be announced on the Cavendish Community and Conservation Association Facebook page.


For more information, email CavendishCommunityConservation@gmail.com.



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